

JIM WEBB  
VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1517232 VB

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4605

January 6, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4024

Mr. William E. Moschella, Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 1145  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Moschella:

Enclosed is correspondence from my constituent, [REDACTED] in reference to obtaining a Federal Pardon.

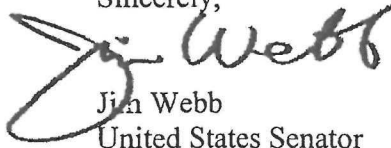
Please give this letter every appropriate consideration and review my constituent's case in accordance with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to your agency. Your attention and assistance would be greatly appreciated.

I would appreciate it if you would send your response to me at my Arlington Office, addressed to the attention of my caseworker, Matt Lucas at 1501 Lee Highway, Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22209. He may also be reached by phone at 703-807-0581, by fax at 703-807-5198, or by e-mail at [Matthew\\_Lucas@webb.senate.gov](mailto:Matthew_Lucas@webb.senate.gov).

Thank you so much for your assistance to my constituent.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,

  
Jim Webb  
United States Senator

JW:ml  
Enclosure

RECEIVED  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
2009 JAN 26 AM 11:36  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT



U.S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

B6

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAR 13 2009

The Honorable Jim Webb  
1501 Lee Highway, Suite 130  
Arlington, VA 22209

Attn: Matt Lucas

Dear Senator Webb:

This is in response to your letter of January 6, 2009 regarding [REDACTED] application for a presidential pardon.

[REDACTED] application for presidential pardon was received in this office on December 5, 2008; the conviction (for which no sentence to incarceration was awarded) for which she seeks pardon occurred on [REDACTED] in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Under §1.2 of the Rules Governing Petitions for Executive Clemency which govern the activities of this office, a minimum of five years must expire after conviction (or, if a sentence to incarceration is awarded, the end of that sentence) before an individual is eligible to file an application for presidential pardon.

[REDACTED] application included a request that the aforementioned five-year rule be waived. I considered her request, the reasons articulated by her attorney for the request, and the entire pardon application, in concluding that a waiver of the five-year rule was not warranted in this case. [REDACTED] was informed in writing of my decision by correspondence dated February 6, 2009, and her pardon application materials were returned to her.

I trust that this letter is responsive to the questions raised in your correspondence.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney

JIM WEBB  
VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4924

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4605

December 5, 2008

Office of the Pardon Attorney  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite 11000  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is correspondence from my constituent in reference to a matter involving your agency.

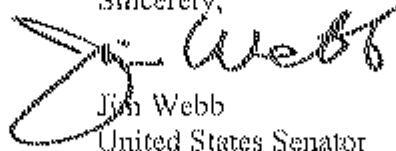
Please give this letter every appropriate consideration and review my constituent's case in accordance with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to your agency. Your immediate attention and expeditious assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Please reply in duplicate to my 507 East Franklin Street, Richmond 23219 office and return the enclosure. In your reply, please reference Michael A. Decker.

Thank you so much for your assistance to my constituent.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,



Jim Webb  
United States Senator

JW/jp/mc  
Enclosure

DEC 15 2008  
U.S. SENATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAID

Senator Jim Webb  
1501 Lee Highway, Suite 130  
Arlington, VA 22209

Senator Webb,

I am enclosing a copy of my Petition for Presidential Pardon. The original has been sent to the Office of the Pardon Attorney in Washington. Please read it at your convenience and if you decide that I merit consideration, please do what you can to get it in front of the necessary individual in President Bush's office.

As stated in the petition, I have been a Virginia resident for the past 7 years without the opportunity to vote. As a proud American this one issue has weighed on me heavily. I also stated in my petition that "I have applied for many jobs in the last year and a half -- many of which I am well suited for, and many of which I am probably over qualified for. The problem is the overwhelming majority of companies will not even consider a felon who has not been pardoned, regardless of the crime, and regardless of the circumstances. Every application asks the question upfront, and I am immediately disqualified from consideration once I answer honestly. I have had friends tell me that their companies have such a strict policy about who they hire, that even if they personally vouched for me, their company would not give me the time of day. I have worked hard over the past 14 years to establish a good reputation. Unfortunately a good reputation, a ton of experience and an outstanding record of performance are simply not enough for someone in my situation. It has become abundantly clear that the only chance I have of securing meaningful employment is to be granted a pardon."

Please take the time to review my petition.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Decker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael A. Decker



U. S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

**JAN 29 2009**

The Honorable Jim Webb  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

Dear Senator Webb:

I am in receipt of your correspondence of December 5, 2008 regarding the application for presidential pardon submitted by your constituent, Michael A. Decker. The following information pertains.

Mr. Decker's petition was received in this office in December 2008 and is being processed. It is impossible to estimate how long it might take for his petition to be adjudicated; however, he will be notified promptly of a decision on his petition shortly after it is made.

I assure you that every consideration will be given to Mr. Decker's petition; thank you for your letter, which will be made part of his clemency file in this office.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney

cc:

The Honorable Jim Webb  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

JIM WEBB

VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4605

March 3, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
202 224-4024

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

2009 JF2 - 1 M 11:56

2009 JF2 - 1 M 11:56

Office of the Pardon Attorney  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite 11000  
Washington, D.C. 20530

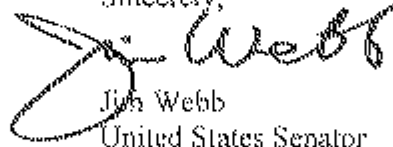
Dear Sir or Madam:

I recently received the enclosed additional correspondence related to a matter pending before your agency.

Thank you again for your continued assistance on behalf of Michael A. Decker. It would be helpful if you would refer to Michael A. Decker in your response.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,



Jim Webb  
United States Senator

JW/jp/nc



The Honorable Jim Webb  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

February 13, 2009

Dear Senator Webb,

I received your letter dated February 4, 2009. Allow me to thank you once again for continuing to follow my Presidential pardon application. I cannot begin to tell you how much your help means to me and to my family. I am particularly grateful for your help, knowing that there are so many critical issues right now that require your constant attention.

If I may, I would like to give you a little more information about my circumstances. I am 63 years old and unemployed, having lost my job almost two years ago. Since that time my wife and I have exhausted our savings trying to keep current on all our bills. Our financial situation has become critical in recent months.

I realize that there are currently 3.6 million unemployed Americans, and that it is a difficult time to find employment. Unfortunately my *continued* unemployment is not due to a lack of trying, but rather on the limitations placed on me by my conviction in 1992.

After my release I spent 13 years (1994 - 2007) working in the commercial distressed debt and REO areas of the financial industry. With hard work and considerable effort I was able to attain the position of Senior Vice President for FirstCity Servicing Corporation (a division of FirstCity Financial Corporation.) Given my issue in 1992, I felt extremely proud to have achieved this accomplishment. But when FirstCity decided to shutter their east coast operation, in May 2007, I found myself unemployed.

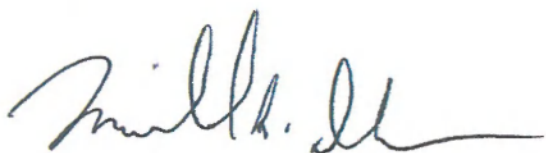
I have always been a hard worker, and a benefit to the organizations for which I have worked. I would like to continue to be a productive member of the work force, but have found the task of finding a new job harder than I ever could have imagined. I have excellent references and an exemplary reputation in the industry. However, every online application that I have encountered asks prospective employees if they have a felony. I have applied for hundreds of jobs for which I am more than qualified -- but since I receive no acknowledgement or interview offers, I can only assume that I am eliminated from consideration the moment that I answer the felony question in the affirmative. On occasions where employers have sought me out, before asking me to fill out their company application, I have been able to demonstrate that I am qualified for their positions,

and they have responded favorably – that is, until I voluntarily disclose my criminal status, in which case their interest and their offers have been politely withdrawn – the reason being “company policy.”

Last year a third party recommended me for a management position with Silverpoint Capital. I was flown to their office in Connecticut and interviewed for a job to head their distressed debt platform. The company advised me that they were impressed with my background, informed me that I was their best candidate for the position and indicated that they were ready to sign me. At this point I felt it necessary and responsible to disclose my past – which I did. The Silverpoint executive then informed me that despite the fact that I was a “perfect fit” for their position, he would have to withdraw his offer. Having gotten that far in the process I was obviously depressed. This has happened to me more than once, yet I remain hopeful that I will be given the opportunity to speak to someone who needs my skill set *and* who can get past my conviction.

At a time when the nation faces an alarming level of distressed consumer and commercial debt, persons with my qualifications should be in high demand – yet I remain unemployed. Obviously, my past conviction is the main roadblock in my securing meaningful employment. Regardless, I will continue to search for an open minded employer who is willing to hire someone like me - someone who has paid his debt and is looking for an opportunity and not a handout.

Sincerely,



Michael Alan Decker



B6

Midlothian, VA 23112

CC:

The Honorable Jim Webb  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23219





U.S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

APR 20 2009

The Honorable Jim Webb  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4605

Dear Senator Webb:

We have received your March 3, 2009, letter enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Michael A. Decker, concerning his application for presidential pardon. Your letter and his correspondence have been made a part of his clemency file.

As you know, Mr. Decker's petition for presidential pardon is under consideration. As you may be aware, the processing time for a pardon application is lengthy. While we are unable to estimate when final action will be taken on his application, we will notify him promptly when that occurs. Thank for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald L. Rodgers", is positioned above the typed name.

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney

JIM WEBB  
VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

1450715  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
202 224-4324

August 26, 2008

Office of the Pardon Attorney  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite 11000  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is correspondence from my constituent in reference to a matter involving your agency.

Please give this letter every appropriate consideration and review my constituent's case in accordance with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to your agency. Your immediate attention and expeditious assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Please reply in duplicate to my 507 East Franklin Street, Richmond 23219 office and return the enclosure. In your reply, please reference Nicole M. Winston.

Thank you so much for your assistance to my constituent.

With warm regards, I remain


Sincerely,

  
Jim Webb  
United States Senator

JW:jp  
enclosure

B6

2008 JUL 25 PM 12:15

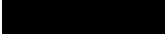
  
Richmond, VA 23221

July 18, 2008

The Honorable Jim Webb  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond VA 2321

Dear Senator Webb:

I am aware that you were instrumental in getting the second chance bill passed for programs. I am grateful to you for that bill, but it does not help offenders with federal charges.

I would like to know if you will be willing to help  with obtaining a pardon from President Bush. She has had her rights restored by former Governor Warner on July 5, 2005 and has re-registered to vote. She was doing fairly well until she was laid off from a 7 year position.

Each time she seeks employment and acknowledge her criminal past on job applications she is turned away. Her prospects of securing employment is quite limited.

Thanking you in advance for any assistance you can render.

Respectfully yours,





**U.S. Department of Justice**

Pardon Attorney

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*Washington, D C. 20530*

NOV - 6 2008

The Honorable Jim Webb  
United States Senator  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Webb:

This responds to your letter of August 26, 2008, forwarding correspondence from your constituent, Nicole M. Winston, who writes to request assistance in obtaining a presidential pardon.

Enclosed is the form used to apply for a pardon. The form should be carefully and fully completed in accordance with the rules and instructions that are provided. Ms. Winston should know that only federal convictions are subject to presidential pardon and a minimum waiting period of five years after conviction or release from incarceration is required before a pardon application may be accepted. See Section 1.2 of the enclosed rules and paragraphs two and three of the "Information and Instructions on Pardons." The completed form should be returned to this office for processing and need not be filed in duplicate.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney

Enclosure

JIM WEBB  
VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1525371  
WB

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4605

January 6, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4024

Office of the Pardon Attorney  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite 11000  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is correspondence from my constituent in reference to a matter involving your agency.

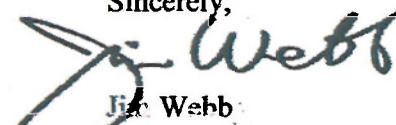
Please give this letter every appropriate consideration and review my constituent's case in accordance with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to your agency. Your immediate attention and expeditious assistance would be greatly appreciated.

B6 Please reply in duplicate to my 507 East Franklin Street, Richmond 23219 office and return the enclosure. In your reply, please reference [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for your assistance to my constituent.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,

  
Jim Webb  
United States Senator

JW/jp/nc  
Enclosure

RECEIVED  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
2009 FEB 12 PM 2:18

2009 JAN -5 PM 3:2008 DEC 18

VA

(home)  
(work)  
(cell)

December 12, 2008

The Honorable Jim Webb  
507 East Franklin St.  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Webb

I am requesting your help in a matter of great importance to me and my family. I am seeking a petition for a Presidential pardon.

My name is [REDACTED]. My brother, [REDACTED] and I operate [REDACTED] in the small town of [REDACTED] Virginia. The [REDACTED] has been in our family for almost 50 years. In [REDACTED] my life changed. I was charged with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I pled guilty to the charge, served my sentence, paid by fine and was released early from my probation. It was a situation in which my judgement was in great error.

Senator Webb, as you know, the [REDACTED] is facing a severe crisis. No job is secure at this point. [REDACTED] near future. [REDACTED] I may soon have to choose a new path of work and with a felony conviction, that could be very difficult.

If you could lend me your support and consideration in my petition for pardon, I would truly hold it in highest regards.

Most Respectfully Yours,

[REDACTED]

B6



U.S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

MAR - 4 2009

The Honorable Jim Webb  
United States Senator  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Webb:

This correspondence is in reference to your letter of January 6, 2009, regarding the application for presidential pardon of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] application for presidential pardon was received in this office on December 16, 2008, and it is being processed. The processing time for a pardon application can be lengthy, and we can give no assurance that final action will be taken by the President within a particular time frame. You may be assured that we will notify [REDACTED] promptly when a final decision is made on his application.

We appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney